

THE HARRIS HERALD

NEWS YOU CAN USE JANUARY 2012

Happy New Year!

As we embark upon a new year, I urge you to live each day as if it were your last and passionately fight for the causes that are near and dear to your heart.

In this edition, you will find information on how to acquire a FREE birth certificate to vote, learn of the county's new task force on human trafficking and 2012 bus route changes.

Finally, thank you for allowing me to continue to serve as your County representative of the 2nd District.

-Supervisor Nikiya Q. Harris

Milwaukee County Board Committees

Parks, Energy, & Environment

Health and Human Needs

Transportation, Public Works &
Transit

Community Memberships

Milwaukee Child Welfare
Partnership Council

Youth Sports Authority Board

National Association of 100 Black
Women, Milwaukee Chapter

Appointed Committees

National Association of Young Black
Elected Officials Chairwoman,
Health and Human Services
Committee



Editor: David C. Crowley

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Will Allen – Growing Power

Supervisor Harris acknowledges Will Allen on his receipt of the Rachal Carson Environmental Award for outstanding achievement. Mr. Allen has been recently recognized by the Natural Products Association (NPA) for his work on the urban farm movement. Growing Power is a national nonprofit organization and land trust supporting people from diverse backgrounds, and the environments in which they live, by helping to provide equal access to healthy, high-quality, safe and affordable food for people in all communities.

If you would like more information on **Growing Power**, please visit <http://www.growingpower.org/>.

If you would like more information on **Natural Products Association (NPA)**, please visit <http://www.npainfo.org/>.

Senior Citizen – Hall of Fame Nominations

Department on Aging is now accepting nominations for the Milwaukee County Senior Citizen Hall of Fame. Established in 1997, the Hall of Fame honors five outstanding seniors in Milwaukee County who have served in the community as volunteers and as advocates on behalf of the elderly.

Nominees must show distinguished volunteer service in one or more of the following categories:

- voluntary service of an educational, community or humanitarian nature
- exceptional contributions as a volunteer in efforts to improve the lives of people regardless of race, creed or national origin
- voluntary service in advocacy on behalf of Wisconsin senior citizens

Awardees will be recognized in a ceremony and celebration in May 2012.

For a list of former Senior Citizen Hall of fame awardees and to view their biographies please visit: <http://www.milwaukee.gov/county/aging> or call Jill Knight at 414-289-6794.

Nominations are due February 13, 2012.

Know of an UNSUNG HERO in your neighborhood?



So often there are individuals in our community that go unrecognized for the positive contributions they have made to society.

In the 2nd District, we appreciate those who strive to make a difference in the lives of others. Help Supervisor Harris recognize that special person by nominating them as an UNSUNG HERO.

To learn more about nominations please contact David Crowley at david.c.crowley@milwcnty.com or call 414-278-5071.

We look forward to hearing from you!

Human Trafficking

Supervisor Harris is excited to report that the Milwaukee County Board has established a Milwaukee County Task Force on Human Trafficking. The Task Force will be appointed by the Board Chairman. There will be representation from a variety of city and county departments, non-profits, and county residents. The goal of this task force will be to develop a plan to both improve connections between existing services and create additional services available to people who have been trafficked for labor or sex within Milwaukee County. “Thanks to my colleague Supervisor Eyon Biddle for authoring this legislation, more families can go to bed at night knowing their loved ones will be protected under this law in Milwaukee County,” said Supervisor Harris.

The task force will report to the Judiciary, Safety, and General Services Committee with recommendations on the following items:

- Appropriate service models, including culturally competent services
- Policies and practices, including changes to state laws, that protect both children and adults from trafficking
- Policies and practices on judicial and law enforcement interventions
- Job training and recovery for victims
- Establishing transitional housing or safe houses for victims



FREE Birth Certificates for VOTING PURPOSES ONLY

Supervisor Harris is reminding everyone, effective with the New Year, valid photo identification is now required to vote in Wisconsin. In an effort to promote voting and avoid disenfranchisement, Supervisor Harris is making sure constituents understand the steps necessary to vote in 2012.

In order to obtain a free identification card from the State Department of Transportation, the applicant must provide a copy of a vital record, such as a birth certificate from the County Register of Deeds Office. For individuals who have never received a state ID card, Milwaukee County is currently offering free birth certificates for the purposes of voting.

“It’s great that a majority of the County Board agreed with me in waiving the \$20 birth certificate fee,” Supervisor Harris added. “I am pleased that we took this step at the County level to limit disenfranchising voters at the polls.”

For more information or to access the birth certificate request form, Milwaukee County residents can visit Supervisor Harris’ webpage at <http://county.milwaukee.gov/D2/VoterID.htm>.

2012 Transit System Service Changes

On Sunday, January 29th, route changes to the Milwaukee County Transit System will go into effect. This change is due to a 10% (\$6.8 Million) reduction in State aid which equals roughly \$9.8 million in diminished bus services. Additionally, MCTS faced other budgetary challenges, including state elimination of County reimbursement for Title XIX Medicaid non-emergency medical transportation rides, the rising cost of fuel and other annual inflationary cost increases attributed to utilities, parts, materials, labor and benefits.

To prevent more cuts to the system and increased fares, Milwaukee County sought a grant opportunity through a federal CMAQ grant to create NEW SERVICE and improve air quality by positively impacting auto congestion. This approach will improve the system with three express routes (with limited stops) and allow us to maintain the majority of service by reducing expenses with other routes.

Summation of Changes:

- Three new express routes – Red Line, Green Line and Blue Line
- Two new routes – Route 56 (Greenfield Avenue) and 52 (Clement-15th)
- Names of Route 11, 18, and 68 will no longer be used, their service is replaced by other routes
- Routes 15, 23, and 62 will have significant routing changes
- Routes 15, 54, and 63 will have extensions, picking up other route segments
- Some small segment eliminations on Routes 11, 18, 23, and 68

Please visit RideMCTS.com for more information or call the Milwaukee County Transit System at 414-344-6711.

Save the Date

Town Hall Meetings:

Wednesday, January 11, 2012
Parklawn YMCA - 4340 N. 46th St.
6pm – 7pm

Wednesday, February 8, 2012
Silver Spring Neighborhood Center - 5460 N. 64th St.
6pm – 7pm

Wednesday, March 14, 2012
Silver Spring Neighborhood Center - 5460 N. 64th St.
6pm – 7pm

Wednesday, April 4, 2012
Silver Spring Neighborhood Center - 5460 N. 64th St.
6pm – 7pm

In the District:

Urban Grassroots presents:

The Bridging the Gap Youth Summit

Saturday, January 28, 2012
Silver Spring Neighborhood Center- 5460 N. 64th St.
2pm – 6pm

In the County:

Community Brainstorming Conference

Saturday, January 28, 2012
St. Mathews AME Church - 2944 N. 9th St.
9:00am

Milwaukee County Board Meeting

Thursday, February 2, 2012
Milwaukee County Courthouse - 901 N. 9th St.
9:30am